Trade with U.K.

744. CHOWDHRY HARI SINGH : Will the Minister of COMMERCE be pleased to state :

(a) whether Government's attention has been drawn to a news report appearing in the Hindustan Times dated the 3rd April, 1993 stating that British High Commissioner Sir Nicholas Fenn had stated, recently, that the Ayodhya issue and the incidents of Bombay and Calcutta bomb blasts would not affect trade with U.K.;

(b) if so, the reaction of Government thereto ; and

(c) the estimated trade by India with U.K. for the current year and details of our trade with that country ?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF CIVIL SUPPLIES, CONSUMER AFFAIRS AND PUBLIC DISTRIBUTION WITH ADDITIONAL CHARGE OF THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF COMMERCE (SHRI KAMALUDDIN AHMED) : (a) and (b) The British High Commissioner's statement is in line with the sentiments expressed by the British P.M. during his visit to India in January, 1993.

(c) Total exports in 1991-92 to U.K. were Rs. 2803.72 crores while imports amounted to Rs. 2963.06 crores. During the period April, 1992—January, 1993, India's exports to U.K. were of the order of Rs. 2899.13 crores and India's imports from U.K. during the same period amounted to Rs. 3325.55 crores. These figures show a growth of 31.39 per cent on exports and 32.23 per cent on imports as compared to the figures for the corresponding period of the previous year.

Export of Processed Food

745. SHRIMATI KAMLA SINHA : Will the Minister of COMMERCE be pleased to state :

(a) whether it is a fact that Government are keen to export processel food and earn foreign exchange ; and

(b) what is the manner in which Government propose to meet the internal demand and to maintain the nutritional status ?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF CIVIL SUPPLIES, CONSUMER AFFAIRS AND PUBLIC DISTRIBUTION WITH ADDITIONAL CHARGE OF THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF COMMERCE (SHRI KAMALUDDIN AHMED) : (a) Yes, Sir.

(b) In case of items of mass consumption, besides restrictions such as quantitative ceilings, minimum export price and export licensing, imports are also resorted to where considered necessary.

राष्ट्रीय ग्रामीण श्रम आयोग की सिफारिशों का अध्ययन

746 श्रीमती सुषमा स्वराज:

डा. जिनेन्द्र कुमार जैन : क्या श्रम मंत्री यह बताने की कृपा करेंगे कि :

(क) क्या यह सच है कि राष्ट्रीय ग्रामीण श्रम आयोग द्वारा ग्रामीण श्रम के संबंध में की गई सिफारिशों का अध्ययन करने के लिए एक समिति का गठन किया गया है ;

(ख) यदि हां, तो इस समिति का गठन कब किया गया और इस समिति को कब तक अपना प्रतिवेदन देने का अनुरोध किया गया था;

(ग) क्या यह भी सच है कि इस समिति ने अभी तक अपना प्रतिवेदन सरकार को प्रस्तुत नहीं किया है ;

(घ) यदि हां, तो यह प्रतिवेदन कब तक प्रस्तुत किए जाने की संभावना है ;

(ड.) क्या यह भी सच है कि सरकार ने राष्ट्रीय ग्रामीण श्रम आयोग द्वारा की गई सिफारिशों को क्रियान्वयन करने संबंधी कोई निर्णय नहीं लिया है ;

(च) यदि हां, तो क्या यह भी सच है कि कृषि मजदूरों तथा निर्माण-कार्य में लगे असंगठित मजदूरों की आर्थिक स्थिति दयनीय है ; और

(छ) यदि हां, तो आयोग द्वारा उनके कल्याण के लिए की गई सिफारिशों को क्रियान्वित करने में विलम्ब के क्या कारण हैं ?

श्रम मंत्रालय के राज्य मंत्री (श्री पी. ए. संगमा) : (क) से (च) : सरकार ने खेतिहर एवं निर्माण कर्मकारों से संबंधित सिफारिशों सहित राष्ट्रीय ग्रामीण श्रम आयोग की कुछ सिफारिशों का अध्ययन करने तथा राज्य श्रम मंत्रियों के समक्ष, उनके अगले सम्मेलन जो कि वर्ष के अन्त में प्रस्तावित है में अपनी रिपोर्ट प्रस्तुत करने के लिए 20-11-1992 को 13 राज्यों के श्रम मंत्रियों की एक समिति का गठन किया है ।

(ङ) से (छ) राष्ट्रीय ग्रामीण श्रम आयोग ने असंगठित श्रमिकों की आर्थिक दशाओं को सुधारने के लिए अनेक सिफारिशें की हैं। संबंधित मंत्रालयों/विभागों द्वारा इनकी जांच की गई है और अपेक्षित कार्रवाई की गई है ।

Memorandum by South Asian Coalition on eradication of Child Labour

747. SHRI KRISHNA KUMAR BIRLA: Will the Minister of LABOUR be pleased to state :

(a) whether it is a fact that in a memorandum recently presented to Government, the South Asian Coalition on Child Servitude has made certain demands to eradicate child labour in the country :

(b) if so, what are the details thereof ; and

(c) what is the reaction of Government with regard thereto ?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF LABOUR (SHRI P. A. SANGMA) : (a) Yes, Sir.

(b) The Memorandum seeks the liberation of employed children employment of adults in their place, enforcement of child labour laws, creation of awareness and setting up of National Commission on bonded labour

(c) Total liberation of child labour in the near future being considered not feasible due to socio-economic conditions, the policy of the Government is its progressive elimination. This is sought to be achieved through legislation, better enforcement of laws relating to child labour, welfare programmes, greater awareness against employment ot children amongst parents, employers and society at large and extension of education to increasing number of children. Setting up of National Commission on bonded labour had been considered in the 41st Labour Ministers' Conference and the matter has been referred to a Committee of Labour Ministers.

Labourers affected due to communal riots in Bombay

748. SHRI RAM NARESH YADAV : Will the Minister of LABOUR be pleased to state :

(a) whether Government are aware that due to the recent communal riots in Bombay a large number of labourers fled from the city to their respective States :

(b) if so, what are the details thereof; and

(c) what are the details of steps taken by Government to rehabilitate these workers ?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF LABOUR (SHRI P. A. SANGMA) : (a) to (c) According to the information received from the Government of Maharashtra a large number of labourers left Bombay after the December 1992 communal riots. In order to safeguard the interests of the workers and stop labour migration, various relief, rehabilitation and rescue measures including safety of their workplaces have been adopted by the State Government.